(c) whether it is a fact that Government proposes to ban these drugs;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (e) For certain anti-asthmatic Drug inhalers (combination of Salmeterol/formeterol with fluticasone, budesonide) researchers have raised concerns that long acting beta-2 against can worsen asthma by increasing symptoms serverity. These drugs may also increase the risk for asthma.

However, Corticosteroids works overtime to reduce inflammation and prevent permanent injury in this lungs. Many studies have shown that the use of inhaled corticosteroids in patients with moderate to severe asthma significantly reduce the rate of rehospitalization and deaths from asthma.

The FDA, USA is continuing to evaluate the safety of Salmeterol for children, and its benefits outweigh its risk.

WHO report on climate change

102. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to the World Health Organization (WHO) the climate change will have a serious and damaging impact on human health in South East Asia, including India, as air quality will suffer and respiratory disease will be exacerbated;

(b) if so, what are the other main features of the WHO report;

(c) whether Government has considered the report; and

(d) if so, what are the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

Some of the main features of the report issued by the Secretariat of WHO (122nd Session) dated 16-1-08 are that Climate change will have profoundly adverse effects on health through food, air and water. The warming of the planet will be gradual, but the increasing frequency and severity of extreme weather events, such as intense storms, heat waves, droughts and floods, will be abrupt and the consequences will be acutely felt. The earliest and most severe threats are to the developing countries. The worsening of air quality increases the prevalence of asthma and respiratory infections. The populations considered to be at greatest risk, among other people, are large urban agglomerations in delta regions in Asia.

(c) and (d) Hon'ble Prime Minister has released India's National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) on 30-6-08 and, as a part of the National Action Plan, eight National Missions have been launched. The Mission document will be comprehensive as the range of the study preceding it will cover a wide variety of subjects affecting human health and environment on account of climate change.